

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00127 150858Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 150836Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2368
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 0127

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR
SUBJECT: BREZHNEV MIDDLE EAST VISIT

1. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR INFORMED ME EVENING JANUARY 14
THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR MOUKHITDINOV HAD SAME DAY TOLD
HIM ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE SHORTLY RESCHEDULING
BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST. PAKISTANI SAID THAT
WHEN HE PRESSED SOVIET, MOUKHITDINOV HAD ADDED HE
ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE ISSUED PRIOR END JANUARY.

2. AT SAME SOCIAL FUNCTION QUERIED PRESIDENT ASAD'S
POLITICAL ADVISOR, ADIB DAOUDI, RE RESCHEDULING OF VISIT.
DAOUDI ANSWERED HE UNAWARE OF ANY IMPENDING ANNOUNCEMENT
AND PERSONALLY THOUGHT IT "HIGHLY PREMATURE FOR ANYONE TO DISCUSS
NEW DATES."

3. COMMENT: PAK WAS CLEARLY CONVINCED HE HAD BEEN GIVEN
STRAIGHT STORY BY SOVIET. WHILE CANNOT EVALUATE VALIDITY
OF PAK'S REPORT, WOULD NOTE THAT MOUKHITDINOV IS EXPERT
IN AVOIDING BEING PINNED DOWN ON ANY SUBJECT. SINCE NEWS
RECEIVED HERE DECEMBER 30 OF POSTPONEMENT BREZHNEV'S
VISIT HE HAS LIMITED SELF TO BLAND GENERALIZATIONS
ASSURING HIS AUDITORS THAT VISIT POSTPONEMENT WAS
TEMPORARY MATTER AND WOULD BE RESCHEDULED SOON.

MURPHY

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 00127 150858Z

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NNN

Message Attributes

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